

Amendments to the abstract:

Please replace the current abstract with the following shortened version:

Communication systems employing subchannel communication such as OFDM or multicode CDMA have a disadvantage of power variation of the transmitted signal. The present invention provides reduced power variation without compromising performance or bandwidth. Information symbols to be transmitted on the individual subchannel are fed to encoders which map the information symbols into channel symbols by increasing their order. The encoding is in response to a forward error correction scheme and includes selection between redundant symbol values to reduce power variation. Preferably the encoder includes a trellis coder jointly encoding the symbols and a compensation data set to reduce power variation.